SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION FOR REISSUE PATENT APPLICATION TO CORRECT "ERRORS" STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.175)		
	Attorney Docket Number	18360/204167
	First Named Inventor	Nicholls
	Application Number	09/315,680
	Filing Date	May 20, 1999
	Group Art Unit	3628
	Examiner Name	Poinvil, F.

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

I believe I am an original, first, and joint inventor of the subject matter which is described and claimed in U.S. Patent No. 5,631,827, entitled LOGISTICS SYSTEM FOR AUTOMATING TRANSPORTATION OF GOODS, granted May 20, 1997, and for which a reissue patent application was filed on May 20, 1999, now pending as Reissue Application No. 09/315,680.

I have reviewed and understand all the amendments that have been made to the present reissue application and the claims, including the amendment filed herewith, as shown in Exhibit A, attached hereto.

Every error in the patent which is corrected in the present reissue application, and which is not covered by a prior oath and/or declaration submitted in this application, arose without any deceptive intention on my part.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. I verily believe the original patent to be wholly or partly inoperative or invalid, for the reasons described below:

☐ by reason of a defective specification or drawing.

☒ by reason of the patentee claiming more or less than he had the right to claim in the patent.

☐ by reason of other errors.

In addition to the one or more errors described in previously submitted declarations, at least one error upon which the reissue application is based is described as follows:

A plurality of carriers and a plurality of rate servers as recited in Claim 1 is an error because the claimed subject matter does not require the plurality. A claim including a single carrier and a single rate server would be patentable. Accordingly, the patentee claimed less than he had a right to claim in the patent.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

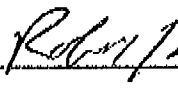
Full Name of First Inventor: PETER NICHOLLS

Inventor's Signature: Non-Responsive Date:

Citizenship: Great Britain

Last Known Residence and Mailing Address: Rue Des Touristes, 17:1170, Brussels, Belgium

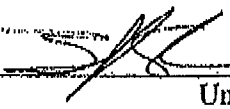
Full Name of Second Inventor: ROBERT KINYON

Inventor's Signature:  Date: 2/6/08

Citizenship: United States

Residence and Mailing Address: 1511 E. 21st St., Tulsa, OK 74114 USA

Full Name of Third Inventor: JEFF SKAISTIS

Inventor's Signature:  Date: 2/6/08

Citizenship: United States

Residence and Mailing Address: 6014 E. 57th Pl., Tulsa, OK 74135 USA

Full Name of Fourth Inventor: STEVE JOHNSON

Inventor's Signature: Non-Responsive Date:

Citizenship: United States

Last Known Residence and Mailing Address: 5325 South Toledo Ave., Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74105

Full Name of Fourth Inventor: ANDY LOCKER

Inventor's Signature: _____ Date: 2/6/2008

Citizenship: United States

Residence and Mailing Address: 2806 E. 85th St., Tulsa, OK 74137 USA

Full Name of Fourth Inventor: CHRIS GUZIK

Inventor's Signature: _____ Date: 2/6/2008

Citizenship: United States

Residence and Mailing Address: 12504 East 79th Court North, Owasso, OK 74055 USA

Full Name of Fourth Inventor: SCOTT HOWARD

Inventor's Signature: _____ Date: 2/6/2008

Citizenship: United States

Residence and Mailing Address: 5140 S. Marion Ave., Tulsa, OK 74135 USA

EXHIBIT A

Claim 1. (Amended) A logistics management tool to facilitate the process of shipping goods by a shipper via a selected one of a plurality of carriers, comprising:

a plurality of rate servers comprising computer-implemented rate storage and calculating means, at least one rate server for each of said plurality of carriers, at least one of said rate servers having message processing means for sending, receiving and handling messages;

at least one of said rate servers having database means for maintaining a record of [the] rates applicable to a given one of said carriers and further having an embedded set of predefined methods representing [the] rate computation rules of said given one of said carriers;

at least one client application comprising computer-implemented input and output means separate from said rate servers and having a user interface to permit the shipper to [interact with said logistics management tool in order to] process [the] a shipment of goods;

at least one of said rate servers having a shipper interface means for defining a set of operations accessible to said client application; the set of operations representing [the] a procedure by which the shipper ships goods to thereby isolate the set of operations by which [a] said shipper ships from [the] rules by which [a] said carrier transports;

at least one supervisory server for integrating operations of said at least one rate server, and for making said operations accessible to said client application, said supervisory server having message processing means for sending messages to and receiving messages from said at least one rate server and said client application and for handling messages sent and received based upon a predefined set of rules.

Claim 2. (Amended) The tool of claim 1 further comprising a scripting system communicating with said client application for modifying at least one of said set of operations representing the procedure by which the shipper ships goods.

Claim 3. (Pending) The tool of claim 1 wherein said client application comprises a shipments client for rating and documenting a group of packages comprising a shipment being processed by the shipper.

Claim 4. (Pending) The tool of claim 1 wherein said client application comprises a packages client for rating and documenting a single piece of shipment being processed by the shipper.

Claim 5. (Amended) The tool of claim 2 wherein said scripting system is a script administration client comprising [one of] said client application[s].

Claim 6. (Amended) The tool of claim 1 wherein said client application comprises a carrier rate adjustments client having a user interface operable to allow [the] a user to alter the predefined methods representing the rate computation rules.

Claim 7. (Amended) The tool of claim 1 further comprising a document server for providing printing services to said client application.

Claim 8. (Pending) The tool of claim 7 wherein said printing services include printing documents generated to effect shipment.

Claim 9. (Pending) The tool of claim 1 wherein said rate server is installed on a first computer system and wherein said client application is installed on a second computer system, the first and second computer systems being coupled together over a network.

Claim 10. (Amended) The tool of claim 1 further comprising an external processing manager for providing communications services to permit said client application to request and receive data from an external database not supervised by said supervisory server.

Claim 11. (Amended) The tool of claim 10 [wherein said logistics management tool is installed under] , further comprising an operating system which provides a command interpreter facility and wherein said external processing manager interfaces with said operating system to use said command interpreter facility to provide said communications services.

Claim 12. (Pending) The tool of claim 11 wherein said command interpreter facility is responsive to a predefined command set and wherein said external processing manager includes means integrated with said command interpreter facility for supplementing said predefined command set.

Claim 13. (Amended) A logistics management system to facilitate the process of shipping goods by a shipper via a carrier, comprising:

a rate server comprising computer-implemented rate storage and calculating means, said rate server having message processing means for sending, receiving and handling messages;

said rate server having database means for maintaining a record of rates applicable to said carrier and further having an embedded set of predefined methods representing rate computation rules of said carrier;

at least one client application comprising computer-implemented input and output means separate from said rate server and having a user interface to permit the shipper to process shipments of goods;

said rate server having a shipper interface means for defining a set of operations accessible to said client application; the set of operations representing a procedure by which the shipper ships goods to thereby isolate the set of operations by which said shipper ships from rules by which said carrier transports;

at least one supervisory server for integrating operations of said rate server, and for making said operations accessible to said client application, said supervisory server having message processing means for sending messages to and receiving messages from said rate server and said client application and for handling messages sent and received based upon a predefined set of rules.

Claim 14. (Amended) The system of claim 13 further comprising a scripting system communicating with said client application for modifying at least one of said set of operations representing the procedure by which the shipper ships goods.

Claim 15. (Amended) The system of claim 13 wherein said client application comprises a shipments client for rating and documenting a group of packages comprising a shipment being processed by the shipper.

Claim 16. (Amended) The system of claim 13 wherein said client application comprises a packages client for rating and documenting a single piece of shipment being processed by the shipper.

Claim 17. (Amended) The system of claim 14 wherein said scripting system is a script administration client comprising said client application.

Claim 18. (Amended) The system of claim 13 wherein said client application comprises a carrier rate adjustments client having a user interface operable to allow a user to alter the predefined methods representing the rate computation rules.

Claim 19. (Amended) The system of claim 13 further comprising a document server for providing printing services to said client application.

Claim 20. (Amended) The system of claim 19 wherein said printing services includes printing documents generated to effect shipment.

Claim 21. (Amended) The system of claim 13 wherein said rate server is installed on a first computer system and wherein said client application is installed on a second computer system, the first and second computer systems being coupled together over a network.

Claim 22. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 13 further comprising an external processing manager for providing communications services to permit said client application to request and receive data from an external database not supervised by said supervisory server.

Claim 23. (Amended) The system of claim 22, further comprising an operating system which provides a command interpreter facility and wherein said external processing manager interfaces with said operating system to use said command interpreter facility to provide said communications services.

Claim 24. (Amended) The system of claim 23 wherein said command interpreter facility is responsive to a predefined command set and wherein said external processing manager includes means integrated with said command interpreter facility for supplementing said predefined command set.

Claim 25. (Amended) The system of claim 13 wherein said rate server is installed on a first computer system and wherein said client application is installed on a second computer system, the first and second computer systems communicating over a global-wide area network.

Claim 26. (Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the supervisory server comprises an interprocess communication mechanism for passing messages between the rate server and the client application.

Claim 27. (Three times Amended) A logistics management system to facilitate the process of shipping goods by a shipper via a carrier, comprising:

a rate server, connected to a network, having a set of rules by which said carrier transports;

a client application, connected to the network, having a set of rules by which said shipper ships; and

a supervisory server, connected to the network, through which said rate server and said client application register to establish a mutual message communication capability by which said rate server and said client application thereafter pass messages independently of said supervisory server over an interface between them, said interface isolating the set of rules by which the shipper ships from the rules by which the carrier transports.

Claim 28. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 27, wherein:

the client application includes a client interface for communicating with the client application; and

the rate server is configured to communicate with the client application via the client interface.

Claim 29. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 27, wherein the messages comprise:

at least one predefined request message issued by the client application to the rate server; and

at least one predefined response message issued by the rate server to the client application.

Claim 30. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 29, wherein:

the predefined request message includes a weight and a delivery date for a package to be shipped; and

the predefined response message includes a cost for shipping the package.

Claim 31. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 27, wherein the set of rules by which the carrier transports comprises a knowledge base of rate structures and carrier practices pertaining to the carrier.

Claim 32. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 27, wherein the set of rules by which the shipper ships comprises a knowledge base of shipper's rules, regulations and practices pertaining to the shipper.

Claim 33. (Amended) The system of claim 32, wherein the knowledge base of the shipper's rules, regulations, and practices comprises rules for taking orders for goods from customers, packaging the goods, and shipping the goods to customers.

Claim 34. (Amended) The system of claim 27, wherein the client application further comprises a user interface for collecting input information from a user about a desired shipping operation and for providing output information.

Claim 35. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 27, wherein the supervisory server engages an interprocess communication mechanism to facilitate message passage between the rate server and the client application.

Claim 36. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 35, wherein the interprocess communication mechanism is selected from the group consisting of shared memory, semaphores, named pipes, queues, signals, netbios, sockets, and mail slots.

Claim 37. (Amended) The system of claim 35, further comprising an external processing manager for interfacing with external data bases or other application programs.

Claim 38. (Amended) The system of claim 35, further comprising a device manager for interfacing with external peripheral devices.

Claim 39. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 35, wherein the client application further comprises a document server for printing of a shipping document.

Claim 40. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 35, further comprising a document administration object for extending communication standards for the interprocess communication mechanism.

Claim 41. (Amended) The system of claim 27 wherein the rate server is installed on a first computer system and wherein the client application is installed on a second computer system, the first and second computer systems communicating over a global-wide area network.

Claim 42. (Twice Amended)A logistics management system to facilitate the process of shipping goods by a shipper via a carrier, comprising:

a rate server having a record of one or more rates applicable to said carrier and further having an embedded set of predefined methods representing rate computation rules of said carrier, said rate server being connected to a network for sending, receiving and handling messages;

at least one client application connected to said network and is separately located from said rate server on said network, said client application having a user interface to permit the shipper to process shipments of goods;

said rate server having a shipper interface for defining a set of operations accessible to said client application, the set of operations representing a procedure by which the shipper ships goods to thereby isolate the set of operations by which said shipper ships from rules by which said carrier transports; and

at least one supervisory server for making said operations of said rate server accessible to said client application, said supervisory server being connected to said network for sending messages to and receiving messages from said rate server and said client application and for handling messages sent and received based upon a predefined set of rules.

Claim 43. (Twice Amended)The system of claim 42, wherein:

the client application includes a client interface for communicating with the client application; and

the rate server is configured to communicate with the client application via the client interface.

Claim 44. (Twice Amended)The system of claim 42, wherein at least one predefined request message including a weight and a delivery date for a package to be shipped is issued by the client application to the rate server; and

at least one predefined response message including a cost for shipping the package is issued by the rate server to the client application.

Claim 45. (Twice Amended)The system of claim 42, wherein the rate server includes a knowledge base of rate structures and carrier practices pertaining to the carrier.

Claim 46. (Twice Amended)The system of claim 42, wherein the client application includes a knowledge base of the shipper's practices pertaining to the shipper.

Claim 47. (Twice Amended)The system of claim 46, wherein the knowledge base of the shipper's practices includes rules for taking orders for goods from customers, packaging the goods, and shipping the goods to customers.

Claim 48. (Amended) The system of claim 42, wherein the supervisory server includes an interprocess communication mechanism for passing messages between the rate server and the client application.

Claim 49. (canceled)

Claim 50. (Twice Amended)The system of claim 49, wherein the interprocess communication mechanism is selected from the group consisting of shared memory, semaphores, named pipes, queues, signals, netbios, sockets, and mail slots.

Claim 51. (Amended) The system of claim 49 further comprising an external processing manager for interfacing with external data bases or other application programs.

Claim 52. (Amended) The system of claim 49 further comprising a device manager for interfacing with external peripheral devices.

Claim 53. (Twice Amended)The system of claim 49, wherein the client application further includes a document server for printing a shipping document.

Claim 54. (Amended) The system of claim 42 wherein said rate server is installed on a first computer system and wherein said client application is installed on a second computer system, the first and second computer systems communicating over a global-wide area network.

Claim 55. (Previously Amended) A logistics management method for facilitating the process of shipping goods by a shipper via a carrier, said shipper having a computer-implemented client application that has access to a network and which is related to shipping said goods, said client application having a set of rules by which the shipper ships, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a rate server having a set of rules by which the carrier transports in order to determine data related to shipping the goods;

providing access to said rate server on said network from the client application such that said rate server is separately located from said client application on said network; and

communicating the determined data from said rate server to said client application through an interprocess communication mechanism connected to said network and thereby isolating the set of rules by which the shipper ships from the rules by which the carrier transports.

Claim 56. (Pending) The method of claim 55 further comprising the step of:

communicating the determined data to the client application through an accessible client interface.

Claim 57. (Pending) The method of claim 55 further comprising the steps of:

issuing a request message by the client application to the rate server; and

issuing a response message by the rate server to the client application.

Claim 58. (Amended) The method of claim 57, wherein:

the request message includes a weight and delivery date for a package to be shipped; and

the response message includes a cost for shipping the package.

Claim 59. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 55 further comprising the step of:

providing the rate server with a knowledge base of rate structures and carrier practices pertaining to the carrier.

Claim 60. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 55 further comprising the step of:

providing the client application with a knowledge base of the shipper's practices pertaining to the shipper.

Claim 61. (Twice Amended)The method of claim 60, wherein the knowledge base of the shippor's practices includes rules for taking orders for goods from customers, packaging the goods, and shipping the goods to customers' inputted destinations.

Claim 62. (Pending) The method of claim 55 further comprising the step of:

collecting via a user interface input information from a user about a desired shipping operation.

Claim 63. (Pending) The method of claim 55 further comprising the step of:

providing an interprocess communication mechanism for passing messages between the rate server and the client application.

Claim 64. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 63, wherein the interprocess communication mechanism is selected from the group consisting of shared memory, semaphores, named pipes, queues, signals, netbios, sockets, and mail slots.

Claim 65. (Amended) The method of claim 63 further comprising the step of:

providing an external processing manager for interfacing with external data bases or other application programs.

Claim 66. (Amended) The method of claim 63 further comprising the step of:

providing a device manager for interfacing with external peripheral devices.

Claim 67. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 63 further comprising the step of:

providing the client application with a document server for printing a shipping document.

Claim 68. (Pending) The method of claim 55 further comprising the steps of:

installing the rate server on a first computer system, with the client application being a second computer system; and

providing the determined data of the rate server to the client application over a global-wide area network.

Claim 69. (Previously Canceled)

Claim 70. (Previously Canceled)

Claim 71. (Twice Amended) A logistics management system to facilitate the process of shipping goods by a shipper via a carrier, comprising:

a rate server, connected to a network, having a set of rules by which said carrier transports;

a client application, connected to the network, having a set of rules by which said shipper ships;

a supervisory server, connected to the network, with which said rate server and said client application register to facilitate communication of messages between said rate server and said client application independently of said supervisory server; and

an interface associated with at least one of said rate server and said client application which isolates the set of rules by which the shipper ships from the set of rules by which the carrier transports.

Claim 72. (Twice Amended) The system of Claim 71, wherein:

the client application includes a client interface for communicating with the client application; and

the rate server is configured to communicate with the client application via the client interface.

Claim 73. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 71, wherein the messages comprise:

at least one predefined request message issued by the client application to the rate server; and

at least one predefined response message issued by the rate server to the client application.

Claim 74. (Previously Amended) The system of Claim 73, wherein:

the at least one predefined request message includes a weight and a delivery date for a package to be shipped; and

the at least one predefined response message includes a cost for shipping the package.

Claim 75. (Previously Amended) The system of Claim 71, wherein the set of rules by which the carrier transports comprises a knowledge base of rate structures and carrier practices pertaining to the carrier.

Claim 76. (Previously Amended) The system of Claim 71, wherein the set of rules by which the shipper ships comprises a knowledge base of shipper's practices pertaining to the shipper.

Claim 77. (Previously Amended) The system of Claim 76, wherein the knowledge base of the shipper's practices comprises rules for taking orders for good from customers, packaging the goods, and shipping the goods to customers.

Claim 78. (Pending) The system of Claim 71, wherein the client application further comprises a user interface for collecting input information from a user about a desired shipping operation and for providing output information.

Claim 79. (Previously Amended) The system of Claim 71, wherein the supervisory server engages an interprocess communication mechanism to facilitate a message passage between the rate server and the client application.

Claim 80. (Twice Amended) The system of Claim 79, wherein the interprocess communication mechanism is selected form the group consisting of shared memory, semaphores, named pipes, queues, signals, netbios, sockets, and mail slots.

Claim 81. (Amended) The system of Claim 79, further comprising an external processing manager for interfacing with external data bases or other application programs.

Claim 82. (Amended) The system of Claim 79, further comprising a device manager for interfacing with external peripheral devices.

Claim 83. (Twice Amended) The system of Claim 79, wherein the client application further comprises a document server for printing a shipping document.

Claim 84. (Twice Amended) The system of Claim 79, further comprising a document administration object for engaging communication standards for the interprocess communication mechanism.

Claim 85. (Amended) The system of Claim 71, wherein the rate server is installed on a first computer system and wherein the client application is installed on a second computer system, the first and second computer systems communicating over a global-wide area network.

Claim 86. (Three Times Amended) A delivery management system, comprising:

at least one rate server having rate information based upon a set of rules by which a carrier delivers;

at least one client configured to collect input information from a user;

at least one supervisory server including at least one computer configured to provide registration services to facilitate communication between the rate server and the client via a client/server architecture utilizing an interprocess communication mechanism, said communication being independent of said supervisory server; and

whereby rules by which the user operates are isolated from the set of rules by which the carrier delivers.

Claim 87. (Amended) The system of Claim 86, wherein one or more computer processes are distributed across a network.

Claim 88. (Amended) The system of Claim 86, wherein at least two of the rate server, the client and the supervisory server run on a single processor.

Claim 89. (Amended) The system of Claim 86, wherein a first client, a first rate server, and a first supervisory server run on a single processor.

Claims 90-98 were previously canceled.

Claim 99. (Amended) A logistics management system to facilitate the delivery of goods comprising:

a network architecture for passing messages;

a supervisory server having a registrar enabling communication with said network architecture;

at least one client application having a set of shipper rules and a first data processing service including a first registration service to register said client application with said registrar for establishing a line of communication between said client application and said network architecture, a first interface service to collect input data, generate a request message based on said input data and said set of shipper rules and display a response message, and a first message handling service to communicate said request message and said response message between said client application and said network architecture; and

at least one rate server having a set of carrier rules and a second data processing service including a second registration service to register said rate server with said registrar for establishing a line of communication between said rate server and said network architecture, a second interface service to generate said response message based on said set of carrier rules and said request message, and a second message handling service to communicate said request message and said response message between said rate server and said network architecture;

wherein said first and second message handling services enable communication between said at least one client application and said at least one rate server via said network architecture and isolate said set of carrier rules from said set of shipper rules.

Claim 100. (Amended) The logistics management method of claim 55, further comprising the step of providing at least one supervisory server configured to provide registration services to facilitate communication between the rate server and the client application.

Claim 101. (Pending) A computer-readable storage medium containing a set of computer-executable instructions for a method for facilitating the process of shipping goods by a shipper via a carrier, said shipper having a computer-implemented client application that has access to a network and which is related to shipping said goods, said client application having a set of rules by which the shipper ships, said set of instructions comprising:

providing a rate server having a set of rules by which the carrier transports in order to determine data related to shipping the goods;

providing access to said rate server on said network from the client application such that said rate server is separately located from said client application on said network; and

communicating the determined data from said rate server to said client application through an interprocess communication mechanism connected to said network and thereby isolating the set of rules by which the shipper ships from the rules by which the carrier transports.

Claim 102. (Pending) A computer-controlled apparatus configured to perform a method for facilitating the process of shipping goods by a shipper via a carrier, said shipper having a computer-implemented client application that has access to a network and which is related to shipping said goods, said client application having a set of rules by which the shipper ships, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a rate server having a set of rules by which the carrier transports in order to determine data related to shipping the goods;

providing access to said rate server on said network from the client application such that said rate server is separately located from said client application on said network; and

communicating the determined data from said rate server to said client application through an interprocess communication mechanism connected to said network and thereby isolating the set of rules by which the shipper ships from the rules by which the carrier transports.

Claim 103. (Amended) The system of Claim 27, wherein the messages comprise:

at least one predefined response message that includes a cost for shipping one or more packages issued by the rate server to the client application.

Claim 104. (Amended) The method of Claim 55, further comprising the step of:

issuing a response message by the rate server to the client application, wherein the response message includes a cost for shipping one or more packages.